

MINUTES

CLARENDON COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

March 8, 2010 6:00 P.M.

Clarendon School District #3 Office

1177 Atkinson Street, Turbeville, SC 29162

The **Regular meeting** of the Clarendon County Council was held on Monday, **March 8, 2010**, at 6:00 PM in the **Board Room of the Clarendon School District #3 Office in Turbeville, S.C.**

In attendance were:

County Council Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
County Council Vice-Chairman W. J. Frierson
County Councilman Billy Richardson
County Councilman Benton Blakely
County Councilman A. C. English, Jr.
County Administrator Bill Houser

Press in attendance: Cathy Gilbert of *The Manning Times* and Bobby Baker with *The Item*.

Others in attendance: Betty S. Pritchard, Clerk to Council; David W. Epperson, County Attorney; Linda P. Lemon, Human Resource Director; Mia Jackson, Senior Secretary, Administration; Fred and Sandi Tucker, Weldon Auditorium; Virginia (Ginie) Turbeville, Mayor, Patrick Goodwin, Administrator, and Dr. Kate Smith, Councilwoman, of the Town of Turbeville; Dr. Connie Dennis, Superintendent, Sandra Bagnal, Finance Director, and George Green, Board Chairman, of Clarendon School District #3; Blake Gibbons of The Citizens Bank; Matt Evans, County Treasurer; Nancy Cave, Archivist; several residents from Manning and Turbeville; and Freddie Huth from County Law Enforcement.

Chairman Stewart opened the meeting at 6:00 PM. He welcomed all in attendance, with special recognition to Bobby Baker and Mayor Ginie Turbeville upon their return following recent illness. Stewart expressed appreciation to Superintendent Dennis and Clarendon District #3 for permitting Council to meet in their new District Board Room. Councilman Blakely gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance recited in unison.

Following a review of the **Minutes of the Special Joint Meeting of County Council with the Councils of Manning, Summerton and Turbeville of February 8, 2010; the Regular County Council Meeting of February 8, 2010; and the Special**

Council Meeting of February 22, 2010; and upon motion of Councilman Richardson, seconded by Councilman Blakely, these **Minutes were approved as presented.**

Consideration was given to Second Reading of Ordinance #2010-01 to Amend the FY2009-2010 County Budget. Administrator Houser explained that when the FY2009-2010 Budget was prepared, the County Finance Group took an extra conservative approach since the economic situation was uncertain and the outcome of Legislative action relative to the ATIs (Assessable Transfer of Interest properties) was unknown at that time. Now that the ad valorem revenue on real property is being collected, it is evident that actual collections are exceeding revenue anticipated in the FY2009-2010 Budget in an amount in excess of \$ 250,000. Houser explained that in preparing the final budget, certain proposed and requested expenditures were deleted from the Budget because of the economic restrictions and anticipations. He reported that in view of the additional revenue collected, he is recommending that certain expenditures be reconsidered for purchase and/or repair. He reviewed with Council the recommended expenditures explaining the necessity for each, as follows:

Archives roof repair	\$ 40,000
Archives interior repair	20,000
5 mid-size vehicles from State contract to replace oldest vehicles	80,000
Internet-based procurement software	40,000
Internet domain	35,000
Internet firewall upgrade	8,800
Weldon part-time Events Coordinator March 1 st	<u>9,300</u>
Total expenditures	\$ 233,100

Administrator Houser further explained that since it has been noted the Archives Building is on the National Historical Register, the services of an architect will be required which could double the \$ 60,000 cost for the Archives repair. Councilman English questioned whether this figure should now be reflected as \$ 120,000 rather than \$ 60,000; Houser responded that he planned to wait until the Public Hearing and Third Reading at which time he should have available the actual quoted repair costs from Procurement. Chairman Stewart recognized Nancy Cave, the County Archivist, and asked if she wished to provide further details relative to the repairs to the Archives Building. Ms. Cave invited and encouraged the Council members to visit the Archives and assured them they would be able to readily view the deteriorating damage to the exterior metal dome roof as well as to the interior dome. She added that she has boxed up some of the archive material to prevent the possibility of water damage. She stressed the need for the repair of this important historical building. Chairman Stewart thanked Ms. Cave for the dedicated attention she provides the Archives. Councilman Blakely questioned the need for five vehicles. Houser reported that these would be replacing the oldest vehicles

owned by the County - all with very high mileage ranging from 180,000 to 200,000 miles with two for the Assessor's office, one for the Planning Department and two for the Courthouse. Chairman Stewart reminded Council that all repairs and other expenditures would be made prior to purchasing the five vehicles to make sure sufficient funds remain for this purchase. Cathy Gilbert asked what would happen to the older cars that are being replaced. Houser explained that they would be sold on the GovDeals.com auction website and that we usually experience success with items sold in this fashion. Cathy Gilbert asked if the new vehicles would be purchased locally. Houser responded that the County would like to purchase them locally but this would depend upon whether or not the local dealers will match the State contract prices. Vice-Chairman Frierson asked, "How can we be so far off in our total revenue figures?" Houser responded that when the Budget was being finalized last year, there were so many uncertainties with regard to the ATI tax structure since the Legislature had not finalized their restructure action, that the County decided to take a very conservative approach to total revenue rather than run the risk of having a deficit Budget. He added that the existing market conditions at that time also created a definite risky situation. He explained that in previous years, the Finance team has been right on target with its estimated revenue figures but this past year, there were too many uncertainties which were not within the County's control. Chairman Stewart commented, "What makes this so difficult is that we do not know what properties are going to sell." He explained that when the Legislature first started discussing options for the ATI procedures, they proposed that the Counties may have to issue refunds but this was quickly countered with the fact that this would bankrupt the Counties. He added that it is prudent to budget very conservatively to prevent risks to the County. Stewart commented, "If by doing this, we find we have collected greater revenue, we can then determine how to spend it." Vice-Chairman Frierson reiterated, "So, we are now working on last year's revenue figures that we know we have?" Houser confirmed this. Houser also alerted Council to the fact that he received notification from the State as to the most recent cut in Local Government Fund (LGF) funds in the total amount of \$ 46.8 million (nearly 19%) which represents a 15% reduction (or \$ 236,525) for Clarendon County. He stated that the balance of the surplus revenue after the proposed purchases and repairs will be used to augment the funds cut by the State. Upon motion of Councilman English, seconded by Councilman Richardson, **Council voted by majority vote to grant Second Reading to Ordinance #2010-01 to Amend the FY2009-2010 Budget for Supplemental Expenditures. Councilman Blakely abstained.** Chairman Stewart reminded Council that the **Public Hearing for this Ordinance will be held prior to the Third Reading at the April 12th Council meeting.**

Consideration was given to Second Reading of Ordinance #2010-02 to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of Not Exceeding Two Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollar (\$ 2,350,000) General Obligation Bond, Series 2010 of Clarendon County, South Carolina, to Prescribe the Purposes for Which the Proceeds Shall be Expended, to Provide for the Payment Thereof, and Other Matters Relating Thereto. Chairman Stewart recognized Matt Evans, the County

Treasurer, who will be involved with this particular refunding Bond. He asked Administrator Houser to provide the details of this Ordinance. Houser explained that the initial Bond dated June 1, 2001, will be refinanced to gain lower interest rates. He advised that after the March payment, there is a balance of \$ 2,350,000 remaining at a variable interest rate. Bids have been solicited for the refinancing and three banks bid with 2.8% being the lowest bid received from BB&T. He explained that even with a \$ 22,650 redemption penalty for early payout, the County will save \$ 80,000 over the last six-year period by refinancing the original Bond. Upon motion of Councilman Richardson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson, **Council voted unanimously to grant Second Reading to Ordinance #2010-02.** Chairman Stewart announced that due to the April 1st closing deadline for this refinance, it will be necessary to have a Special Council meeting on Monday, March 22nd, at 6:00 PM at F. E. DuBose Career Center for the Public Hearing and Third Reading of this Ordinance.

Consideration was given to First Reading of Ordinance #2010-03 to Allow for the Installment Payment of Real Estate Ad Valorem Taxes. Attorney Epperson reported that the County Treasurer, Matt Evans, contacted him several weeks ago with the idea of implementing an installment payment plan for the payment of ad valorem taxes on real estate. Epperson reviewed with Council the fact that §12-45-75 of the SC Code of Laws 1976, as amended, grants authorization to Clarendon County to enact this Ordinance. He then briefed Council on the basics of the Ordinance with the primary purpose being to give the taxpayers an option to make installment payments of their real estate taxes per an agreement entered into between the taxpayer and the County Treasurer which will specify the terms and conditions. He explained that there are three options with two being prepayment of real estate taxes based on the previous year's tax bill to be paid either on a monthly or a quarterly basis and the third option which will allow for monthly payments after receipt of the tax bill with the final payment being made on or before the due date in January. Treasurer Matt Evans then was given an opportunity to expound upon this proposed program. He explained that he learned through the SC Auditors and Treasurers Association (SCAT) that the Legislature is in the process of exploring various options to tax payments by installments some of which will require penalty calculations necessitating programming software at an estimated cost of \$ 25,000 or more. Evans reported that their discussion did not address a number of issues and left a number of unanswered questions. He and other SCAT representatives received permission to appear before the Sub-committee handling the project and discussed with them some of the issues of concern. This Sub-committee is now coordinating their efforts with SCAT. Evans again reviewed with Council the three options which will be offered. He stated that this program is not targeting any economic class of taxpayers and it is hoped that this installment program will lessen the tax burden for many taxpayers who will take advantage of the program. He added that the installment payments should help with the cash flow as well as hopefully decrease the number of unpaid taxes turned over to the Tax Collector in March of each year. He reported that several counties are already taking partial payments but not on an organized and programmed basis. He commented, "Clarendon County was one of the first counties in the State to implement

issuance of the SC DOT decals through the Treasurer's Office. We would also like to be on the cutting edge of implementing this installment payment plan for our taxpayers." Chairman Stewart asked, "When can the County use the money being collected via the installment payment plan?" Evans responded, "The money will be held in escrow and cannot be used until the taxes have been paid in full and fully credited to the taxpayer's tax bill." Councilman Blakely asked if the County would draw interest on these tax installment payments. Evans confirmed that the money would draw interest but the interest is very minimal. Councilman English questioned the need for specific software to handle these payments and Evans stated that no specific software will be needed unless the program is overwhelmingly received and installment collections are received in numbers greater than can be handled via an Excel spread sheet. Chairman Stewart thanked Epperson and Evans for their explanations and called for the vote on the Ordinance. Upon motion of Councilman Blakely, seconded by Councilman English, **Council voted unanimously to grant First Reading to Ordinance #2010-03.**

Consideration was given to First Reading of Ordinance #2010-04 to Restate County Road User Fee and Authorize Assignment of Portion to Municipal Entity Under Intergovernmental Agreement. Attorney Epperson briefed Council on the County Road User Fee established and authorized by Council via Ordinance in 1992, amended in 1993 and amended in 2001, currently implementing a \$ 25.00 road user fee to be paid on each registered vehicle in the County. He reported on recent negotiations with the City of Manning to assign a portion of this fee to the City for the maintenance of their streets and roads. The City of Manning will execute an Agreement with the terms and conditions specified which should alleviate future questions. Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Frierson, seconded by Councilman Richardson, **Council granted unanimous approval to First Reading of Ordinance #2010-04.**

Consideration was given to First Reading of Ordinance #2010-05 to Authorize Clarendon County to Enter Into an Enterprise Financing Agreement in an Amount Not to Exceed \$ 3,250,000 to be Paid from and Secured by Pledge of An Enterprise Charge Collected by the County (Weldon Project). Administrator Houser reported that the contractors are in the process of finishing up the restoration of the Weldon Auditorium project which was started a little over a year ago with the assistance of a \$ 1.5 million dollar Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) due to the rather unfavorable financial market. This \$ 3,250,000 Bond will pay off the \$1.5 million dollar BAN and will finance the remainder of the building construction, as well as the front and side parking areas, landscaping, etc. Houser explained that this \$ 3,250,000 Bond will be collateralized by a pledge of the Hospitality Fee. He reported that the County has collected an average of \$ 260,000 annually from the Hospitality Fee for the past 2½ years and as of December 31, 2009, there is was a balance of \$ 650,000 in this account. It is proposed that the County will pledge payments on this Bond in an annual amount not to exceed \$ 225,000 which will be paid from the Hospitality Fee account. Houser explained it is anticipated that the term of this financing may very well be expanded over a 25-30

year period and the interest rate is unknown at this time. The interest rate will probably not be as good as it was with the BAN since this will be a Revenue Bond. It is anticipated that the interest rate may be as low as 4.25% - 4.50% for the first 10 or so years increasing upwards to about 6%. He explained that \$ 450,000 will be debited from the Hospitality Fee account at the loan closing and be placed into a Debt Service (escrow) account. He further explained should the Hospitality Fee account ever be insufficient to pay the \$ 225,000, the payment would be deducted from the Escrow Account. At that time, Council can decide if they want to make other arrangements or pay it off with taxpayer funds. Cathy Gilbert questioned, "So, unless County Council at some future date decides to fund it, this bond expense will not appear on taxpayers' bills?" Councilman Blakely asked, "What happens if we cannot pay this?" Houser explained, "We will have two years of escrow available for payments and we have experienced no decrease in the Hospitality Fee collections even with the weakening economic conditions. Most of this Fee comes from local restaurants and eating establishments and there has been no decrease in this type business." Chairman Stewart reiterated, "County Council would have the option to pay off the Bond, but would not be obligated to do so." Councilman Blakely asked if 6% is the interest rate limit and Administrator Houser answered that the rate is variable from 4.25% to 6%. Councilman English advised that the rate was not really a variable rate but was actually termed a "graduated" or "tiered" interest rate. Chairman Stewart advised that once the bids are received, there will be an interest range with a cap. Although Chairman Stewart afforded the attendees an opportunity to ask any questions they might have, none were submitted. Upon motion of Councilman English, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson, **Council voted unanimously to grant First Reading to Ordinance #2010-05.** **Chairman Stewart noted that in an effort to meet the anticipated closing date, the Public Hearing and Second Reading for this Ordinance will be held in a Special Meeting to be held on Monday, March 22, 2010.**

Consideration was given to Request from Fire Chief Richbourg to permit three of the firefighters (Carl Floyd, Jr., Bobby Ridgeway and "Mutt" Bozard) to attend an out-of-state Instructor's Conference to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana. Administrator Houser noted that two of these registrations will be paid for by the Conference; that the firefighters will be gone for five days (2 for travel and 3 for the conference); and that they have participated in this National competition and training for the past several years. Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Frierson, seconded by Councilman Blakely, **Council voted unanimous approval to the out-of-state conference with separate room reservations if desired.**

Consideration was given to Request for Approval of TV Contract Between Shevick Zupon Entertainment, Clarendon County, and Clarendon County Sheriff's Office. Attorney Epperson reported that several months ago, the Sheriff was contacted by a production company from California for some type of reality show. They would come to Clarendon County and film the Sheriff's office in their day-to-day activities and try to sell the show to a network. The production company has some connection to this area through family members who put them in contact with Sheriff Garrett. Epperson

reported that he reviewed their contract, has negotiated terms and conditions with their attorney, and made changes necessary to protect the County's interest and prevent any liability to the County. He added that the County will receive a \$ 5,000 fee per episode which will go into the General Fund. Administrator Houser interjected the Sheriff has requested that the majority of this fee go back into his department for training and equipment. Vice-Chairman Frierson asked, "From a liability prospective, are we protected for Workman's Compensation injuries, etc.?" Epperson responded, "We have put specific terms and conditions into the Agreement to protect the County." Houser added, "We have sent the proposed Contract Agreement to our Workman's Comp Insurance Company, and while they are not excited about it, they have not denied it." Vice-Chairman Frierson commented, "How about the limited liability involving the criminals?" Chairman Stewart asked the County Attorney, "Did you check into any of the reality shows currently on TV as to how they handle this?" Attorney Epperson answered, "No, but their attorney and I had some very detailed discussions and communicated mostly by email. I have tried my best to protect the County." The Chairman called for Council's decision on this request. Upon motion of Councilman Blakely, seconded by Councilman Richardson, **the request was approved as presented without verbal objection.**

Consideration was given to Board Appointments and the Chairman asked the Clerk to Council, Betty S. Pritchard, to present the appointments to be considered. She presented the following:

1) **Library Board:** Noting that the terms of **Dr. Barbara Jenkins, Kay Kirkpatrick and Mary Howard** have expired, the Clerk presented the request of the Board to have these three members reappointed to serve another four-year term. Upon motion of Councilman English, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson, **Council voted unanimous approval of the reappointment of these three Board members whose reappointment terms will expire June 30, 2013.** The Clerk also reported that two other members have resigned (Rhonda Ritchie, due to out-of-town travel to work, and Arlonial Bradford, who does not wish to be reappointed), and these vacancies will need to be filled; that she has sent out applications to several nominees and that replacements for these two vacancies will be considered at the April Council meeting.

2) **Animal Control Ordinance Review Committee:** The Clerk reported that applications were mailed to nine prospective Committee members who have expressed an interest in serving on this Committee or have been nominated. She reported that the following seven applications have been returned, each expressing a willingness to serve on the Ordinance Review Committee: Loretta Pollard, Janie Fulghum, Nancy Cave, Beth McLeod, Hal Lowder, Wayne Oxendine, and John T. Myers. The Clerk noted that she has not received the name of the Sheriff's representative as of this date. Councilman Blakely interjected that he has someone he wants to nominate to serve on this Committee.

Chairman Stewart asked Councilman Blakely to give the name of his nominee to the Clerk so that she might send him an application. Stewart asked Attorney Epperson to serve as Chairman of this Committee and stated he would like for this Committee to meet and review the Ordinance as quickly as possible. He asked the Clerk to secure the name of the Sheriff's representative and schedule the meeting as soon as possible. Upon motion of Councilman Richardson, seconded by Councilman Blakely, **Council voted unanimous approval of the seven applicants, as named, as well as the representative selected to represent the Sheriff's office and the nominee proposed by Councilman Blakely if he agrees to serve.**

Administrator Houser submitted his Report, as follows:

1) **County Financial Report as of January 31, 2010,** reflects **Revenue of \$ 11,692,794 or 69% of Budget** (68% without Grant Revenue) and **Expenditures of \$ 10,128,357 or 59% of Budget** (56% without Grant Expenditures), resulting in a **positive balance of \$ 1,564,437.**

County Financial Report as of February 28, 2010, reflects **Revenue of \$ 12,482,999 or 73% of Budget**, and **Expenditures of \$ 11,298,116** or 66% of Budget (62% without Grant expenses), resulting in a **surplus of \$ 1,184,883.**

2) **Financial Reports for January 31, 2010,** were received from School Districts #1, #2 and #3 and are contained in the Council packets.

3) **Report of the "C" Fund Program – "C" Fund Report as of January 31, 2010,** has been received from SC DOT as to their monthly accounting; and the Consolidated "C" Fund Report reflects **Funds received in January of \$ 88,677**, in addition to the cash balance at December 31, 2009, of **\$ 1,141,342** leaving a **Cash Balance at January 31st of \$ 1,141,342** with State Construction expenditures of \$ 169,349, and Commitments of \$ 971,993 for Remaining Local Paving Projects of \$ 480,364; Remaining Construction by State of \$ 598,219 and State Construction Projects Reserve of (\$ -106,590) leaving an **uncommitted balance of \$ -0-.** The County Attorney is still working on obtaining right-of-way easements for Brogdon Road, from Tearcoat to Plowden Mill, and for Rev. J.W. Carter Road and Billups Road for Spring paving. Since the February Council meeting, 2 additional easements have been received from Brogdon (still need 14); 3 easements have been received from Rev. J.W. Carter Road (still need 2 and 1 has multiple signatures); 2 easements have been received from Billups Road (still need 2).

4) **Clarendon County Water & Sewer Department** - Statement of Operations for the eight-month period ending February 28th reveals **Total Operating Revenue of \$ 220,385** and **Operating Expenses of \$ 181,483** for an **Operating Revenue Gain of \$ 38,902.** With depreciation expenses of \$ 23,520, there is a **net Utility Income**

of \$ 15,382 for the eight-month period. Houser reported a need to upgrade the 25-horsepower of the sewer pump to more efficiently handle its flow into the 75-hp golf course pump. Vice-Chairman Frierson inquired as to the anticipated cost of this upgrade to which Houser reported “between \$25,000 and \$ 30,000.” Cathy Gilbert asked if the County is paying the Golf Course to take the affluent from the County system. Houser explained, “We have negotiated an incentive contract with them which stipulates if we don’t have to pump and haul, they will be paid an incentive which is far better than the expensive pump and haul.”

5) **Expansion of water service – 260 Project:** A series of meetings are scheduled to inform residents and permit them to sign up for the water service in the first phase of the expansion along Hwy. 260. Houser reported the scheduled meetings as follows: **March 9th** at Santee Baptist Church, 12954 Hwy. 260; **March 11th** at Union Cypress AME Church, 8247 Hwy. 260; **March 16th** at Mount Chapel Baptist Church, 5918 Hwy. 260; **March 18th** at Good Shepherd Baptist Church, Oak Grove Church Road; **March 23rd** at Jordan United Methodist Church, Jordan Church Road; and **March 25th** at Antioch Baptist Church, 2571 Joseph-Lemon Dingle Road. All meetings are scheduled for 6:30 PM. He stressed the importance of participation of the residents and of the opportunity for them to sign up for the service at a discounted rate prior to bid solicitations.

6) **News Tidbit – Clarendon County Detention Center –** An analysis summary of activity at the County Detention Center from July 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, reveals a total of 1227 inmates (an average of 205 monthly) with 1031 males and 196 females. During this six-month period, the Detention Van made 491 trips for a total of 9510 miles which took 716 hours to complete. He explained that the Van is required to take the inmates to and from Court, to Columbia after they are sentenced, pick up and deliver to and from other institutions, pick up and deliver juveniles to Columbia and back to Manning for Court appearances (Detention Center cannot house juveniles) and to doctor/hospital appointments. Houser reported that the operation of the Detention Center is a time consuming and expensive operation. Cathy Gilbert asked the maximum capacity of the Detention Center. Houser responded, “154 depending upon classification of the inmates” and reported that “our female inmate population has been over capacity from time to time due to an increase in arrests of females.”

7) **Employee Health Insurance Report:** Administrator Houser reported that about three years ago, he had discussions with Council relative to increasing insurance premiums resultant from the County’s experience rating, or “load factor” applied to the statewide rates. At that time, the County started various health-related programs spearheaded by the Human Resource Department, such as medical screenings and encouraging exercise programs through membership in The Zone. Our “load factor” rating has decreased admirably and the County has recently been notified by the State that the rating is at 1.000 effective January 1, 2011, which means a 10% reduction in the employee portion of premiums and equates to about \$ 100,000 savings in insurance.

Councilman Blakely questioned whether or not some incentive could be given as a reward to those employees who participate in the health improvement programs. Administrator Houser countered with the fact that the health screening is provided to the employees at no cost and the test results represent approximately a \$ 250 plus savings to the employees. He added that he hopes to have sufficient funds in the Budget this year to provide employee raises. Chairman Stewart added that the flu shots are another free health benefit offered to the employees. He expressed appreciation to Linda Lemon and the other HR staff for their coordinated efforts to provide these benefits to the employees.

Chairman Stewart announced that his monthly written report was contained in the Council packets and offered to answer any questions Council members might have. He reported that he met with the **Mega-Site Committee** on February 22nd and that Clarendon, Sumter and Lee Counties were very glad to have Williamsburg County join the joint partnership. He reiterated the importance of the scheduled water meetings. He also stressed the importance of total participation in **Census 2010** as the results gathered from this Census will affect the County for the next ten years with regard to various grants that are population related. The Chairman expressed appreciation to Cathy Gilbert for the excellent article she published in *The Manning Times*. Administrator Houser commented that in a map recently received, participation in the Census 2000 gained 60% participation from the Oakdale area and 55-60% from the Turbeville area while the remainder of the County had less participation. He added, "The Census reflects the population of the entire County. We thank this area of the County for their participation and hope we can count on you to do even better with Census 2010." Turbeville Administrator, Pat Goodwin, commented, "We are shooting for 100% participation in this Census!" Vice-Chairman Frierson commented, "We might get another Congressional District out of this Census." Cathy Gilbert asked, "How many counties does Congressman Clyburn represent - 15? It would be very difficult for him to effectively represent all of these counties." Vice-Chairman Frierson commented, "This would be the year to make it happen!"

Turbeville Administrator Goodwin reported that the Town of Turbeville has submitted the applications for water and sewer; the applications were returned for adjustments which were made and they have been returned to Williamsburg County. He reported that they are pushing for September 1st for the "shovel to ground" ceremony but that the USDA representative, Rusty Craven, is pushing for December 1st. Chairman Stewart thanked Goodwin for his report and assured him that the County is willing to assist in any way they can.

Chairman Stewart reminded everyone that a Special Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 22, 2010, at 6:00 PM at F. E. DuBose Career Center. He then announced that since the March 8th meeting was being held in Turbeville, he would open

the floor to anyone who wished to bring to Council's attention any concern or matter they wished to discuss. Since no one wished to speak, Chairman Stewart announced the necessity to go into **Executive Session** to receive a legal briefing and to discuss personnel issues. Upon motion of Vice-Chairman Frierson, seconded by Councilman English, **Council voted to enter Executive Session at 8:00 PM. No action was taken in Executive Session.**

At the conclusion of Executive Session and upon motion of Councilman English, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson, **Chairman Stewart reconvened the Open Session at 8:45 PM.**

Chairman Stewart reported that they received information and an update relative to the Detention Center and discussed a personnel matter. He reported that no action was necessary.

There being no further business, Council **adjourned at 8:50 PM without objection.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dwight L. Stewart, Jr., Chairman

Betty S. Pritchard, Clerk to Council

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC AND MEDIA NOTIFICATION

I, Betty S. Pritchard, Clerk to Council, Clarendon County Council, Manning, South Carolina, do hereby certify that public and media notification of the County Council Meeting of March 8, 2010, was given prior thereto by the following means:

PUBLIC NOTIFIED: ***Yes***

MANNER NOTIFIED: ***Agenda placed on the bulletin board in the Clarendon County Courthouse and F. E. DuBose Career Center***

DATE POSTED: ***March 5, 2010***

MEDIA NOTIFIED: ***Yes***

MANNER NOTIFIED: ***Agenda emailed to THE MANNING TIMES, THE ITEM, and THE FLORENCE MORNING NEWS***

DATE NOTIFIED: ***March 5, 2010***

Respectfully submitted,

Betty S. Pritchard, Clerk to Council